



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Galdes, et al.

Serial No: 09/325,602

Filed: June 3, 1999

For: Methods and Compositions for
Treating Disorders Involving
Excitotoxicity

Attorney Docket No. CIBT-P02-069

Art Unit: 1646

Examiner: M. Brannock

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Elisabeth Dunkle

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Sir:

This amendment is being filed in reply to the outstanding Office Action, mailed June 12, 2002, in connection with the above application. This response is being filed to supplement the response filed March 18, 2002 which was allegedly not fully responsive to the prior Office Action.

For the convenience of the Examiner, all claims being examined are presented below.

1. **(Reiterated)** A method for promoting survival and/or functional performance of neuronal cells susceptible to excitotoxicity comprising contacting the cells with an amount of a lipophilic modified *hedgehog* polypeptide effective to reduce excitotoxin-mediated degradation of the cells.